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EDISON FILM

THE TRAIN WRECKERS

TRADE MARK
Thomas A Edison



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THE TRAIN WRECKERS

No. 6222. Code Vaterloser. Length 815 ft. A \$122.25

The opening picture shows a beautiful stretch of wooded country. In the foreground is a neat little cottage, where an elderly man, who is switchman in a nearby railroad tower house, lives with his pretty daughter. The young girl appears on the porch and affectionately strokes a large mastiff lying on the stoop. Presently her lover, a locomotive engineer, approaches and the girl runs to meet him. He walks with her to the house and after a few minutes conversation continues on his way to work.

The next view shows the interior of the switch tower. The girl has just arrived with her father's dinner. He is busy setting the switches for a train which is seen approaching in the distance. When he has finished his dinner she takes the empty pail and starts for home. A short distance up the track she turns and waves to her father, who is watching from the tower window. The girl continues along the track, but on entering some woods suddenly comes upon a gang of roughly dressed men sitting on the ground and talking among themselves with great earnestness. Quickly stepping behind a nearby tree, she learns they are planning to wreck the next express train, and listening intently, hears the details of the whole plot. One of the gang, coming up from behind, discovers the girl, rushes up and seizes her before she has time to escape. The men then all gather around, gag her and bind her to a tree. They then hurry away and the camera follows them to a wild spot in a bend of the road, an ideal spot for carrying out their plot. Cross ties are placed on the track and the gang hide among the trees close by and wait for the train.

The scene now travels to the woods where the girl was left bound to the tree. She is sadly struggling to free herself and about giving up hope when

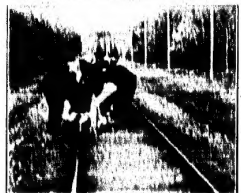
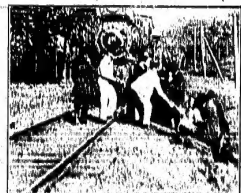
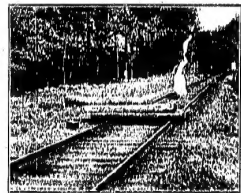
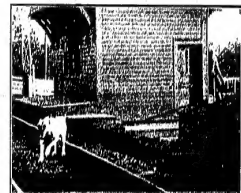


her pet dog appears. He succeeds in partly tearing away the ropes that hold her fast, and after a hard tussle she unties herself. Realizing that something must be done at once, she sends the dog off to warn her father. The dog runs through the woods to the switch tower and up the stairs to give the alarm. He soon returns, closely followed by the girl's father, who has understood the dog's dumb summons.

In the meantime the girl, although in a somewhat dazed condition, has picked up her dinner pail and reached the track before the arrival of the train. She is unable to drag the heavy timbers off the track. Seeing the smoke of the approaching train in the distance, she quickly removes her red petticoat and hurries up the track to flag the oncoming express. Her efforts are rewarded and the engineer brings his train to a stop within a few feet of the cross ties. The crew remove the ties from the track, and with the passengers gather round the girl and shower thanks and congratulations upon her. Everybody then boards the train, which starts off with all the passengers waving their hands and shouting farewells to the little heroine, who is seated on the ties beside the track. She soon starts for home, and after walking for some distance along the track she is about to turn into the path leading to the house, when one of the train wreckers sneaks up behind and knocks her senseless with a black-jack. The whole gang now appear, and maddened by their fruitless attempt to wreck the train, place her body across the track with her head over the rail and leave her to her fate.

The next scene shows the gang meeting at a railroad tool house. Seizing a heavy timber they batter in the door and knock off the lock. They steal the section hand car, throw out the pail, and shovels and place it on the track. The picture closes with the men occupying the hand car.

The scene now returns to where the wreckers left the girl on the track. A



train is rapidly approaching, but the engineer, who is the girl's lover, notices something ahead on the track and leans far out of the cab window. Quickly jumping out of the engine cab, he hurries along the running board and climbs down on the pilot, while the train is rushing along at a tremendous speed. It does not seem possible that he can reach the pilot in time to save the girl's life, but just as she appears doomed to certain death he reaches down and lifts the unconscious girl from the track, while the train rushes madly on. The train is brought to a stop and the passengers rush out pell mell and aid in restoring the girl to consciousness. Her father now appears, and she gives him and the train crew the details of the assault. Uncoupling the engine, the train crew, with a number of volunteers, start off in pursuit of the desperadoes, while some of the passengers carry the girl into the car.

The wreckers on the hand car are now seen making all possible haste in their efforts to escape, but the engine is fast gaining on them. One of the crew is in a crouching position on the locomotive pilot keeping up a steady rain of shots at the fleeing men. The engine at last pulls up close on the hand car and a man-to-man duel commences. One by one the desperadoes fall, either killed or mortally wounded, until only one is left on the hand car. Jumping from the car he is brought down by a shot from one of the crew, but raising himself on his elbow his last shot kills the man who bravely stuck to his post on the engine pilot, while a volley from the remnant of the train crew puts him out of his misery.

